

THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD

Originally based on the book of the same name by Fulton Oursler - who was then the religious editor of *Reader's Digest* - this series dramatized events and stories told of and from Jesus Christ, "the greatest story ever lived." Goodyear Tires was the sponsor, and in an attempt to put quality productions ahead of their product, used no commercial advertisements, just a simple tagline reminding listeners of its sponsorship. Each Sunday afternoon, listeners tuned in to hear another dramatization of the life of Christ, or a tale told by Christ. This made the program the first radio series to simulate the voice of Christ as a continuous character, played by Warren Parker. Marx Loeb was the director, Leonard Blair was the assistant director. Wadill Catchings was producer. William Stoess composed the music, let by a full orchestra and a sixteen-voice chorus.

The series was broadcast on Sunday evenings on ABC, starting at 6:30 - 7:00 pm, later at 5:30 pm as of episode 116. Sponsored by Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, the same company that invented an effective "static eliminator" for radios back in 1943.

The various scripts, written by Henry Denker, usually left the audience with a moral to live by for the rest of the week. "The Golden Rule" was one of the more popular laws revisited, while "The Prodigal Son" returned at least once every season. "Where are the Nine?" concerned the story of the lepers and "John the Baptist" invited us along with Jesus' famed meeting. Human interest morals were even integrated into the scripts. "He That is Faithful" concerned man's integrity during tribulation. "The Second Mile" featured a youth's conquest of hatred. "If the House be Worthy" expressed the conflict of love and power. "Blessed

Are the Meek" allotted victory over despair, "The Widow's Mite" taught us a lesson in humility, and "The Fruitless Fig Tree" taught a lesson in forgiveness.

1. "The Good Samaritan" (1/26/47)
2. "The Unmerciful Steward" (2/2/47)
3. "The Prodigal Son" (2/9/47)
4. "Turn the Other Cheek" (2/16/47)
5. "Ten Talents" (2/23/47)
6. "Faith is As a Mustard Seed" (3/2/47)
7. "The Second Mile" (3/9/47)
8. "The Story of Lazarus" (3/16/47)
9. "The Betrayal" (3/23/47)
10. "The Crucifixion" (3/30/47)
11. "The Resurrection" (4/6/47)
12. "Nicodemus, The Man Who Came by Night" (4/13/47)
13. "John the Baptist" (4/20/47)
14. "The Golden Rule" (4/27/47)
15. "Cast the First Stone" (5/4/47)
16. "They Which See Not Shall See" (5/11/47)
17. "The Soldier's Servant" (5/18/47)
18. "Unto the Least of These" (5/25/47)
19. "The Fruitless Fig Tree" (6/1/47)
20. "The Chief Seat at the Wedding" (6/8/47)
21. "The Mote in Thy Brother's Eye" (6/15/47)
22. "Ask and Ye Shall Receive" (6/22/47)
23. "The Lost Sheep" (6/29/47)
24. "As Ye Would That Men Should Do To You" (7/6/47)
25. "The Loaves and the Fishes" (7/13/47)
26. "Be Not Afraid" (7/20/47)
27. "The Pearl of Great Price" (7/27/47)
28. "A House Built on Rock" (8/3/47)
29. "Lord, Make Me Clean" (8/10/47)
30. "The Parable of the Lost Coin" (8/17/47)
31. "Call Not Any Man a Fool" (8/24/47)
32. "The Calling of Matthew" (8/31/47)
33. "If Thine Eye Offend Thee" (9/7/47)
34. "Who Shall Desire to be First?" (9/14/47)
35. "Where Are the Nine?" (9/21/47)
36. "The Kingdom of God is Within You" (9/28/47)
37. "The Troubled Waters" (10/5/47)
38. "The Wind and the Sea Obeyed Him" (10/12/47)
39. "Let Us Grow Together" (10/19/47)
40. "Who is Most Forgiven?" (10/26/47)
41. "The Greater Shield" (11/2/47)
42. "And It Shall Be Given to You" (11/9/47)
43. "All Ye Are Brethren" (11/16/47)
44. "Thy Soul Shall Be Required" (11/23/47)
45. "And Her Name Was Mary" (11/30/47)
46. "Blessed Among Women" (12/7/47)
47. "Go and Be Counted" (12/14/47)
48. "No Room at the Inn" (12/21/47)
49. "Flight Into Egypt" (12/28/47)
50. "Our Father Which Art in Heaven" (1/4/48)
51. "A Little Leaven" (1/11/48)
52. "The Strength Within" (1/18/48)

53. "The Good Samaritan" (1/25/48)
54. "Seventy Times Seven" (2/1/48)
55. "In the Place of Others" (2/8/48)
56. "The Courage to Try Again" (2/15/48)
57. "Blessed are the Meek" (2/22/48)
58. "They Did Not Receive Him" (2/29/48)
59. "Blessed Are They That Mourn" (3/7/48)
60. "Blessed Are the Peacemakers" (3/14/48)
61. "The Betrayal and the Crucifixion" (3/21/48)
62. "The Resurrection" (3/28/48)
63. "The Hand to the Plow" (4/4/48)
64. "The Hunger Within" (4/11/48)
65. "That Ye Be Not Judged" (4/18/48)
66. "Unto These, My Brethren" (4/25/48)
67. "First, Be Reconciled" (5/2/48)
68. "Sufficient Unto the Day" (5/9/48)
69. "Thou Shalt Be Recompensed" (5/16/48)
70. "If You Have Faith" (5/23/48)
71. "Whosoever is Angry" (5/30/48)
72. "Disputed Boundry" (6/6/48)
73. "The Challenge" (6/13/48)
74. "The Greater Miracle" (6/20/48)
75. ----- (6/27/48)
76. "Of Such is the Kingdom" (9/12/48)
77. "Men With the Mark" (9/19/48)
78. "The Idle Word" (9/26/48)
79. "By Their Fruits" (10/3/48)
80. "Greater Love Hath o Man" (10/10/48)
81. "Flight of the Children" (10/17/48)
82. "The Unbelieving" (10/24/48)
83. "Ye Who Are Heavy Laden" (10/31/48)
84. "The Pursued" (11/7/48)
85. "The Reward is Great" (11/14/48)
86. "A Blade from Damascus" (11/21/48)
87. "A Child in the House" (11/28/48)
88. "Where Thieves Break Through" (12/5/48)
89. "Let Your Light Shine" (12/12/48)
90. "Unto You This Day" (12/19/48)
91. "The Star of Peace" (12/26/48)
92. "Give Us This Day" (1/2/49)
93. "The Boy With Courage" (1/9/49)
94. "The House in Darkness" (1/16/49)
95. "The Figure at the Door" (1/23/49)
96. "The Good Samaritan" (1/30/49)
97. "Journey Tiberias" (2/6/49)
98. "The Prodigal Son" (2/13/49)
99. "This is My Commandment" (2/20/49)
100. "Moment of Decision" (2/27/49)
101. "The Salt of the Earth" (3/6/49)
102. "One Thing Thou Lackest" (3/13/49)
103. "Because of Their Unbelief" (3/20/49)
104. "That Which is Gone Astray" (3/27/49)
105. "Not By Word Alone" (4/3/49)
106. "The Betrayal and the Crucifixion" (4/10/49)
107. "The Resurrection" (4/17/49)

108. "Crumbs from the Table" (4/24/49)
109. "Seventy Were Sent Forth" (5/1/49)
110. "Let Not Thy Left Hand Know" (5/8/49)
111. "Wolves in Sheep's Clothing" (5/15/49)
112. "The Fruit of Forgiveness" (5/22/49)
113. "The Widow's Mite" (5/29/49)
114. "He That Exalteth Himself" (6/5/49)
115. "Do Ye Unto Others" (6/12/49)
116. "Love Your Enemies" (9/18/49)
117. "No Man Can Serve Two Masters" (9/25/49)
118. "The Second Great Commandment" (10/2/49)
119. "If Ye Forgive Not" (10/9/49)
120. "What Shall it Profit a Man?" (10/16/49)
121. "The True Treasure" (10/23/49)
122. "One Who Did Not Return" (10/30/49)
123. "Ye Must Be Born Again" (11/6/49)
124. "To Them That Ask" (11/13/49)
125. "And It Shall Be Opened To You" (11/20/49)
126. "I Was a Stranger" (11/27/49)
127. "A Man Rich Toward God" (12/4/49)
128. "Ye Shall Know the Truth" (12/11/49)
129. "The Prince of Peace" [part one] (12/18/49)
130. "The Prince of Peace" [part two] (12/25/49)
131. "The One Good Deed" (1/1/50)
132. "Woman of Samaria" (1/8/50)
133. "The Lightest Burden" (1/15/50)
134. "He That is Not Against Us" (1/22/50)
135. "That I May Receive Thy Sight" (1/29/50)
136. "The Man Who Sought Forgiveness" (2/5/50)
137. "The Story of Zacchaeus" (2/12/50)
138. "The Good Samaritan" (2/19/50)
139. "The Mote and the Beam" (2/26/50)
140. "The Parable of the Lost Coin" (3/5/50)
141. "He That is Faithful" (3/12/50)
142. "He That Cometh to Me" (3/19/50)
143. "The Light of Life" (3/26/50)
144. "The Betrayal and Crucifixion" (4/2/50)
145. "The Resurrection" (4/9/50)
146. "The Man Who Was Not Humble" (4/16/50)
147. "The Woman and the Treasure" (4/23/50)
148. "A Cup of Cold Water" (4/30/50)
149. "Then Shalt Thou See Clearly" (5/7/50)
150. "He That Will Save His Life" (5/14/50)
151. "The Daughter of Jairus" (9/24/50)
152. "The Woman Who Was Forgiven Much" (10/1/50)
153. "The Prodigal Son" (10/8/50)
154. "A Sinner No More" (10/15/50)
155. "Where Are the Nine?" (10/22/50)
156. "The Weakness That is Strength" (10/29/50)
157. "The Pearl of Great Price" (11/3/50)
158. "Why Are Ye So Fearful?" (11/12/50)
159. "The Soldier's Servant" (11/19/50)
160. "In Search of the Master" (11/26/50)
161. "A House Built on Rock" (12/3/50)
162. "A Man Healed by Love" (12/10/50)

163. "Thy Soul Shall Be Required" (12/17/50)
164. "Unto You, This Day" (12/24/50)
165. "Flight into Egypt" (12/31/50)
166. "And Above All Else, Mercy" (1/7/51)
167. "I Am in the Midst of Them" (1/14/51)
168. "The Good Samaritan" (1/21/51)
169. "Laborers in the Vineyard" (1/28/51)
170. "As Little Children" (2/4/51)
171. "Power for Peace" (2/11/51)
172. "Miracle at Nazareth" (2/18/51)
173. "The Widow of Nain" (2/25/51)
174. "Parable of the Two Sons" (3/4/51)
175. "The Hem of his Garment" (3/11/51)
176. "The Betrayal and the Crucifixion" (3/18/51)
177. "The Resurrection" (3/25/51)
178. "The Image of Man" (4/1/51)
179. "The Story of Matthew" (4/8/51)
180. "End of Darkness" (4/15/51)
181. "The Golden Rule" (4/22/51)
182. "The Calling of Saul" (4/29/51)
183. "Parable of the Unwise Steward" (5/6/51)
184. "The Man With the Withered Hand" (5/13/51)
185. "The Widow's Mite" (5/20/51)
186. "Blessed Are They That Mourn" (9/23/51)
187. "The Second Mile" (9/30/51)
188. "Let Your Light So Shine" (10/7/51)
189. "For Theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven" (10/14/51)
190. "What Do Ye More Than Others?" (10/21/51)
191. "Let Not Thy Left Hand Know" (10/28/51)
192. "Seek Ye First the Kingdom" (11/4/51)
193. "To Them that Ask Him" (11/11/51)
194. "Voyage to Rome" (11/18/51)
195. "Parable of the Persistent Friend" (11/25/51)
196. "The Vine and the Branches" (12/2/51)
197. "Do Ye Even So to Them?" (12/9/51)
198. "Parable of the Seed" (12/16/51)
199. "No Room at the Inn" (12/23/51)
200. "Flight Into Egypt" (12/30/51)
201. "As This Little Child" (1/6/52)
202. "The Widow's Faith" (1/13/52)
203. "The Good Samaritan" (1/20/52)
204. "The Golden Rule" (1/27/52)
205. "He That Humbleth Himself" (2/3/52)
206. "No Greater Commandment" (2/10/52)
207. "Call No Man Unclean" (2/17/52)
208. "If One Be Gone Astray" (2/24/52)
209. "And He Rebuked Them" (3/2/52)
210. "Be Not Afraid" (3/9/52)
211. "Ask and it Shall Be Given" (3/16/52)
212. "He That Doeth Truth" (3/23/52)
213. "Tables of the Money Changers" (3/30/52)
214. "The Betrayal and Crucifixion" (4/6/52)
215. "The Resurrection" (4/13/52)
216. "Parable of the Tares" (4/20/52)
217. "Greater Things Than These" (4/27/52)

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218. "The Tree and the Fruit" (5/4/52)
219. "Turn the Other Cheek" (5/11/52)
220. "The Prodigal Son" (5/18/52)
221. "Do Ye Even So to Them" (9/21/52)
222. "These Things Shall Be Added Upon You" (9/28/52)
223. "The Pure in Heart" (10/5/52)
224. "He That Loseth His Life" (10/12/52)
225. "I'll Make You Fishers of Men" (10/19/52)
226. "The Gift at the Altar" (10/26/52)
227. "Mr. Burden is Light" (11/2/52)
228. "Let Not Thy Left Hand Know" (11/9/52)
229. "The Just and the Unjust" (11/16/52)
230. "Seventy Times Seven" (11/23/52)
231. "Let Your Light So Shine" (11/30/52)
232. "If Thy Hand Offend Thee" (12/7/52)
233. "I Know My Sheep" (12/14/52)
234. "No Room at the Inn" (12/21/52)
235. "City of David" (12/28/52)
236. "The Golden Rule" (1/4/53)
237. "Go With Him Twain" (1/11/53)
238. "Take No Thought of Your Life" (1/18/53)
239. "The Good Samaritan" (1/25/53)
240. "Come and Follow Me" (2/1/53)
241. "Agree with Thine Adversary" (2/8/53)
242. "And Do Good to Them" (2/15/53)
243. "Sufficient Unto the Day" (2/22/53)
244. "What is Spoken in Darkness" (3/1/53)
245. "What Shall a Man Give" (3/8/53)
246. "A House Built on Sand" (3/15/53)
247. "Blessed Are They That Mourn" (3/22/53)
248. "The Betrayal and Crucifixion" (3/29/53)
249. "The Resurrection" (4/5/53)
250. "The Patient Thief" (4/12/53)
251. "Whosoever Will Come to Me" (4/19/53)
252. "But First, the Kingdom" (4/26/53)
253. "If Thou Believe" (5/3/53)
254. "Give and It Shall Be Given" (5/10/53)
255. "Stretch Forth Thine Hand" (5/17/53)
256. "The Good Shepherd" (9/20/53)
257. "For Such is the Kingdom" (9/27/53)
258. "The Heart and the Treasure" (10/4/53)
259. "Thou Hast Gained a Brother" (10/11/53)
260. "He Shall Be Exalted" (10/18/53)
261. "He Saw a Man Named Matthew" (10/25/53)
262. "Honor Thy Mother and Father" (11/1/53)
263. "How Much More Shall Your Father Give?" (11/8/53)
264. "And the Twain Shall Be One" (11/15/53)
265. "A Man Named Nicodemus" (11/22/53)
266. "The Good Measure" (11/29/53)
267. ----- (12/6/53)
268. "Launch Out Into the Deep" (12/13/53)
269. "No Room at the Inn" (12/20/53)
270. "Incident in Bethlehem" (12/27/53)
271. "What Things Ye Have Heard Of" (1/3/54)
272. "The Fruitless Fig Tree" (1/10/54)

273. "The Mote and the Beam" (1/17/54)
274. "The Good Samaritan" (1/24/54)
275. "Turn the Other Cheek" (1/31/54)
276. "Forgive Us Our Trespases" (2/7/54)
277. "Parable of the Talents" (2/14/54)
278. "The Second Mile" (2/21/54)
279. "Thy Will Be Done" (2/28/54)
280. "The Just and the Unjust" (3/7/54)
281. "How Great is the Darkness?" (3/14/54)
282. "And When He Hath Found It" (3/21/54)
283. "And it Giveth Light" (3/28/54)
284. "And Thy Neighbor as Thyself" (4/4/54)
285. "The Betrayal and Crucifixion" (4/11/54)
286. "The Resurrection" (4/18/54)
287. "Thought for the Morrow" (4/25/54)
288. "A Man named Zacchaeus" (5/2/54)
289. "The Narrow Path" (5/9/54)
290. "Every Idle Word" (5/16/54)
291. "The Prodigal Son" (9/19/54)
292. "The Unmerciful Steward" (9/26/54)
293. "The Yoke and the Burden" (10/3/54)
294. "Cast the First Stone" (10/10/54)
295. "John, the Baptist" (10/17/54)
296. "The Lord's Prayer" (10/24/54)
297. "The Pearl of Great Price" (10/31/54)
298. "The Soldier's Servant" (11/7/54)
299. "He That is Faithful" (11/14/54)
300. "Where are the Nine?" (11/21/54)
301. "Nicodemus: The Man who Came by Night" (11/28/54)
302. "If the House be Worthy" (12/5/54)
303. "What Shall it Profit a Man?" (12/12/54)
304. "No Room at the Inn" (12/19/54)
305. "Flight Into Egypt" (12/26/54)
306. "Unto the Least of These" (1/2/55)
307. "The Second Mile" (1/9/55)
308. "Of Such is the Kingdom" (1/16/55)
309. "Who is Forgiven Most?" (1/23/55)
310. "The Good Samaritan" (1/30/55)
311. "The Fruitless Fig Tree" (2/6/55)
312. "They Did Not Receive Him" (2/13/55)
313. "Blessed are They That Mourn" (2/20/55)
314. "The Parable of the Lost Sheep" (2/27/55)
315. "Blessed are the Meek" (3/6/55)
316. "The Golden Rule" (3/13/55)
317. "The Parable of the Lost Coin" (3/20/55)
318. "Thy Sins are Forgiven Thee" (3/27/55)
319. "The Betrayal and Crucifixion" (4/3/55)
320. "The Resurrection" (4/10/55)
321. "One Who Did Not Return" (4/17/55)
322. "The First Shall Be the Last" (4/24/55)
323. "Seek and You Shall Find" (5/1/55)
324. "The Loaves and the Fishes" (5/8/55)
325. "The Widow's Mite" (5/15/55)
326. "Our Father Who Art in Heaven" (9/18/55)
327. "Matthew, the Publican" (9/25/55)

328. "The Story of Lazarus" (10/2/55)
329. "Seventy Times Seven" (10/9/55)
330. "The Hand to the Plow" (10/16/55)
331. "Launch Out Into the Deep" (10/23/55)
332. "The Figure at the Door" (10/30/55)
333. "The Parable of the Sower" (11/6/55)
334. "Do Ye Unto Others" (11/13/55)
335. "Give Us This Day" (11/20/55)
336. "Woman of Samaria" (11/27/55)
337. "The Second Commandment" (12/4/55)
338. "A Cup of Cold Water" (12/11/55)
339. "The Story of Zacchaeus" (12/18/55)
340. "No Room at the Inn" (12/25/55)
341. "The Parable of the Two Sons" (1/1/56)
342. "As Little Children" (1/8/56)
343. "My Burden is Light" (1/15/56)
344. "I Was a Stranger" (1/22/56)
345. "The Good Samaritan" (1/29/56)
346. "The Story of Saul" (2/5/56)
347. "Voyage to Rome" (2/12/56)
348. "I Am in the Midst of Them" (2/19/56)
349. "What God Has Cleansed" (2/26/56)
350. "But First, the Kingdom" (3/4/56)
351. "What Do Ye More Than Others?" (3/11/56)
352. "The Penitent Thief" (3/18/56)
353. "The Betrayal and the Crucifixion" (3/25/56)
354. "The Resurrection" (4/1/56)
355. "Seventy Were Sent Forth" (4/8/56)
356. "The Idle Word" (4/15/56)
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358. "Let Your Light so Shine" (5/6/56)
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365. "The Tree and the Fruit" (10/28/56)
366. "The Pure in Heart" (11/4/56)
367. "The Woman and the Treasure" (11/11/56)
368. "And it Giveth Light" (11/18/56)
369. "The Good Shepherd" (11/25/56)
370. "Seek and Ye Shall Find" (12/2/56)
371. "And Above All Else, Mercy" (12/9/56)
372. "The Heart and the Treasure" (12/16/56)
373. "Flight Into Egypt" (12/23/56)
374. "No Room at the Inn" (12/30/56)

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Martin Grams, Jr. is the author of SUSPENSE: Twenty Years of Thrills and Chills, The History of the Cavalcade of America, and co-author of McFarland's The CBS Radio Mystery Theater: An Episode Guide and Handbook to Nine Years of Broadcasting, 1974-82. Martin is currently at work on two more publications, The Alfred Hitchcock Presents Companion and a book documenting the entire history of the radio/television series Have Gun, Will Travel. For more information about Martin's books, or to order a copy, check out Amazon.com, Barnes and Nobel, or write to Martin himself at Po Box 189, Delta PA 17314 (717) 456 - 6208